

A NEW CENTRAL AMERICAN SPECIES OF *DERANCISTRUS*  
(COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE)

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*Abstract.*—A new prionine cerambycid, *Derancistrus fellerae*, is described from  
Twin Cays, Belize.

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Members of the prionine genus *Derancistrus* Audinet-Serville are widely distributed throughout the West Indies with only four species presently known from Mexico and Central America.

Two specimens of an undescribed species from Twin Cays, Belize, were recently received through T. J. Spilman, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, USDA. According to Spilman (personal communication), Twin Cays (16°50'N, 18°06'W), locally called Water Range, is a swampy mangrove island within the Belize Barrier Reef. It is approximately 1 km in diameter and is 22 km SE of Dangriga (Stan Creek), Belize. Although 20 vascular plant species have been recorded from the island (Stoddert et al., 1982), red mangrove, *Rhizophora mangle* L., and black mangrove, *Avicennia germinans* (L.), were the only woody plants in the area where the beetles were found.

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*Derancistrus fellerae* Chemsak, NEW SPECIES

Fig. 1

Female.—Form moderate sized, tapering posteriorly: integument black, elytra black basally, dark reddish toward apex, femora reddish, narrowly black at bases and apices, tibiae reddish toward apical ½. Head narrow, front short, deeply impressed longitudinally, impression extending onto vertex; punctures coarse, confluent, becoming finer toward neck; pubescence in median impression whitish, dense, appressed, erect setae sparse; antennae extending to about basal ⅓ of elytra, segments broad, flattened, basal segments sparsely punctate, segments from 7th striolate, 3rd segment shorter than 1st, 4th shorter than 3rd. Pronotum broader than long, sides gradually expanding back from apex to behind middle then narrowing to base, margins crenulate with angles dentate; disk with a v-shaped impression at middle on apical margin, base and sides with rather broad impressions, lateral and basal impressions densely clothed with white, recumbent pubescence; punctures on nonpubescent areas irregular, moderately dense; prosternum densely clothed with whitish appressed pubescence, intercoxal process broad, U-shaped at apex; mesosternum with epimeron densely white pubescent; meta-

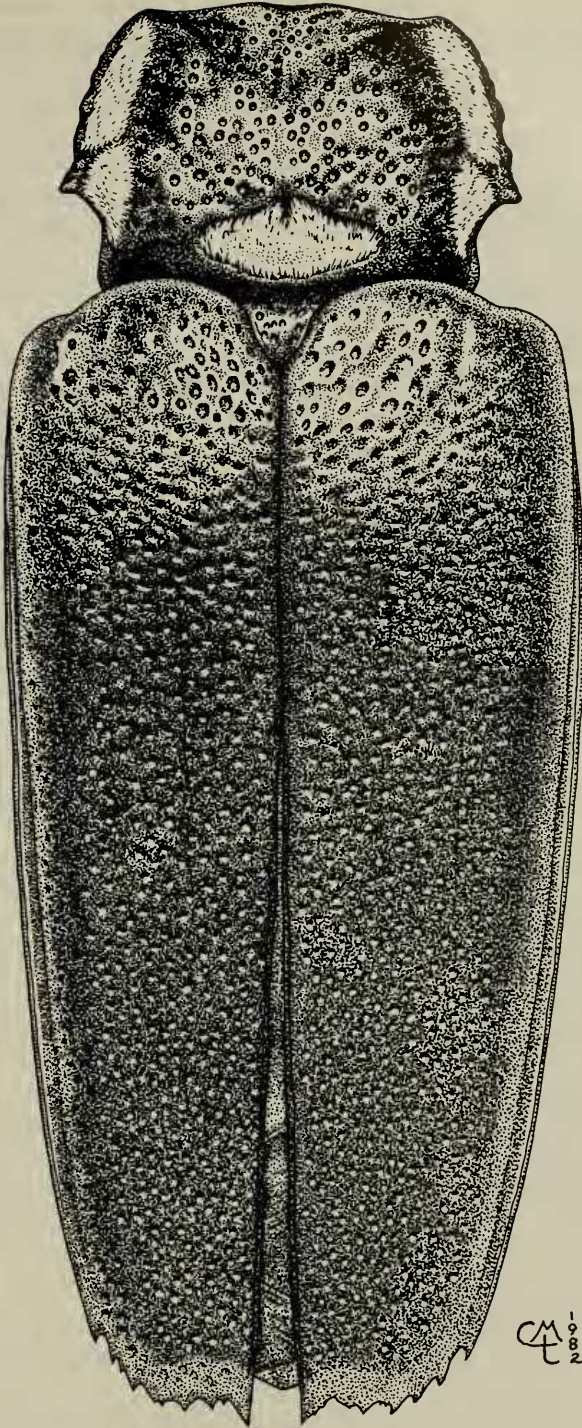


Fig. 1. Dorsal aspect of pronotum and elytra of *Derancistrus fellerae*, female.

sternum finely punctate, punctures very sparse at middle, episternum densely white pubescent. Scutellum cordate, nonpubescent, about as broad as long. Elytra about 2× as long as broad, tapering toward apex; base moderately, broadly lobed on each side; punctures at base coarse, confluent, becoming finer and subconfluent toward apex; pubescence absent; apices serrated, sutural angles dentate. Legs rather slender, femora mostly reddish, tibiae reddish at apices; punctures very sparse, pubescence very sparse, short. Abdomen sparsely punctate, sides of sternites with patches of appressed pubescence; last sternite notched at apex. Length, 23–25 mm.

Holotype.—♀ (National Museum of Natural History, No. 100609) and 1 ♀ paratype from Twin Cays, Belize, 26 May 1982 (Candy Feller).

Remarks.—This species is distinctive by the white pubescent patches of the pronotum. The punctuation of the pronotum and elytra and the heart-shaped scutellum will also separate *felleriae* from the other West Indian species in this group. The shape of the pronotum and scutellum will distinguish it from the other species known to occur in Mexico and Central America.

I am pleased to dedicate this species to the collector, Candy Feller, who was illustrator for SWAMP and editorial assistant for the Catalog of the Coleoptera of America north of Mexico.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- Stoddart, D. R., F. R. Fosberg, and D. L. Spellman. 1982. Cays of the Belize Barrier Reef and Lagoon. Atoll Res. Bull. No. 256, ix + 76 pp.